[27th February 1956

Location of the training section for men at Kozhikode

12-10 p.m. * 3139 *Q.*—Sri P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have shifted the training section of the Government Secondary and Training School for Men at Kozhikode from the existing building to the old headquarters hospital building at Kozhikode;

(*b*) if so, whether the students have vacated their existing hostel;

(*c*) whether they have been provided with alternative accommodation; and

(*d*) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) The students have not vacated the existing hostel.

(*c*) & (*d*) There is no immediate necessity for an alternative accommodation.

Bonus for Plantation Labour

* 3140 *Q.*—Sri N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the result of the conciliation conducted during August 1955 in regard to the question of bonus for the year 1954 for Plantation Labour in the State?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The parties have come to a settlement on the issue of bonus for the year 1954.

Mr. SPEAKER : Question No. 3141.

Sri P. RAMAMURTHI : Sir, question No. 3140 is an important question, and I want to put a number of supplementary questions.

Mr. SPEAKER : Then we shall extend the question time beyond 12-15.

Sri P. RAMAMURTHI : The question itself can be taken up later, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER : The Leader of the Opposition will put his supplementary question.

Sri P. RAMAMURTHI : May I know the terms of the settlement?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The question of bonus for the previous years is before the Special Tribunal. Now the parties have agreed to wait till the decision of the Special Tribunal is known and that if the Special Tribunal in its decision does not refer to any definite policies, then this question of bonus for 1954 will be referred to adjudication.

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Sri P. Ramamurthi : Sir, does the Hon. Minister know that when this Special Tribunal was appointed, a number of other questions had been earlier referred to it and subsequently this question of bonus for the years 1952 and 1953 had also been referred to it, and there is no knowing when the Special Tribunal will go into the question of bonus for 1952 and 1953?

The Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam : I am aware of all that. But, here in this case, the representatives of the management and the representatives of the Workers' Union have come to an agreement.

Sri P. Ramamurthi : The representatives might have come to an agreement that they will adopt some basis. But in view of the fact that this tribunal is going into a number of other questions and that nearly 300 petitions are pending under section 30, this tribunal will not be able to take up the question of bonus for a number of years. Will the Government see to it that the bonus question is referred to a separate tribunal so that the whole question of bonus can be thrashed out?

The Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam : Because this has been referred to by the parties concerned, the hon. Member may put it to the Workers' Union to raise the question with the Government, and then I shall consider the question.

Sri K. P. Gopalan : In view of the fact that the workers have agreed temporarily and the demand of the Union was for 33-1/3 per cent of their pay as bonus, and also in view of the fact that the special tribunal never touched this question, will the Government be pleased to appoint an Arbitration Board or a separate special tribunal to settle this question finally? May I inform the Hon. Minister also that even in North India, a sum of Rs. 6 crores was given as bonus for the workers? I want to know why there is this delay in this matter, and whether the Government will take quick action?

The Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam : Again I repeat, Sir, this bonus question has been agreed to by the parties. But, if the hon. Member is interested, he may put it to the Workers' Union to raise this question with the Government. Then the Government will examine it.

Reserve Bank and Rural Co-operative Banks

* 3141 *Q.*—Sri M. Narayana Kurup : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Reserve Bank of India gives any financial assistance to Rural Co-operative Banks for supplying credit to agriculturists; and

(*b*) if so, the rate of interest charged by the Reserve Bank and the rate at which rural banks lend money to the agriculturists?